the conditions for the entrance examination irrespective of the marks secured for degree examination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) 15 per cent of seats are reserved for SC and 7.5 per cent for ST candidates. The admision is however subject to the candidates qualifying the written test and interview. Relaxation of 5 per cent of marks is allow to SC/ST candidates while determining their eligibility for admission to the entrance examination. Further, 5 percent over the marks obtained in the entrance examination is added in case of SC/ST candidates while determining theid eligibility for interview.

The number of SC/ST candidates who were offered admision during the last three years is as follows:

1984-85	.....	12
1985-86	.....	13
1986-87	.....	6

All the candidates belonging to SC/ST who qualified in the written entrance test were offered admissions.

Returning of Aids Labelled African Students

1113. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Kenyan students who had been labelled AIDS carriors after undergoing the test in India have been cleared through subsequent examination conducted by experts from the World Health Organisation; and

(b) if so, how do the Government justify the accuracy of AIDS test in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPRADE): (a) The Government have not received so far any such finding or report from World Health Organisation.

(b) The question does not arise.

Financial grant to retired sports persons

1114. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of eligible and retired sports persons drawn financial benefits from Government during 1985-86;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no Government agency to look into the financial needs of retired sports persons after their outstanding performance in national and international sports events and no financial help is granted to them unless they apply for it or the media project their abject financial plight; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to constitute a committee to recommend cases of genuinely deserving retired sports persons for financial grant?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) The Government have in operation the National Welfare Fund for sportspersons with a view to rendering, according to set criteria, financial assistance to eligible sportspersons and their families facing financial hardship. Outstanding sportspersons, who are no longer active in sports, are also eligible to receive financial assistance under the scheme if they fulfil other eligibility criteria. As in other schemes of the Government, the eligible sportspersons or their families are expected to apply for financial assistance according

to procedure laid down in the scheme. The fund is already administered by a General Committee constituted under the scheme.

During 1985-86, financial assistance from the fund was given in 9 cases to eligible sportspersons and in 2 cases to the families of the deceased sportspersons.

Removal of Railway drivers posted at Tundla and Kanpur

1115. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 834 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some drivers of the electric train of Northern Railway posted at Tundla and Kanpur were removed from service since 1982;

(b) if so, the number of drivers suspended with reasons in each case;

(c) whether Government propose to reinstate all such suspended drivers on unconditional apology tendered by them;

(d) if so, by when they are likely to be re-instated; and

(e) if not, the manner in which Government propose to re-consider the cases of such drivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Expansion of Vayudoot services in West Bengal

1116. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to connect some more places of West Bengal by Vayudoot;

(b) if so, the names of those places and when these are likely to be connected; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) At present, Vayudoot has no such proposal.

(c) Constraints of aircraft capacity and paucity of financial resources do not permit inclusion of new stations in the immediate expansion programme of Vayudoot.

Diversion of Air India Flights to Calcutta

1117. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to divert some Air India flights to Calcutta from Delhi and Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing services are considered adequate.

Passengers travelled by A. I.

1118. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of passengers travelled by Air India from different places during the last three years domestic as well as abroad, year-wise and placewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.